

# Alaska 2026 Workshop

## State Historic Preservation Office

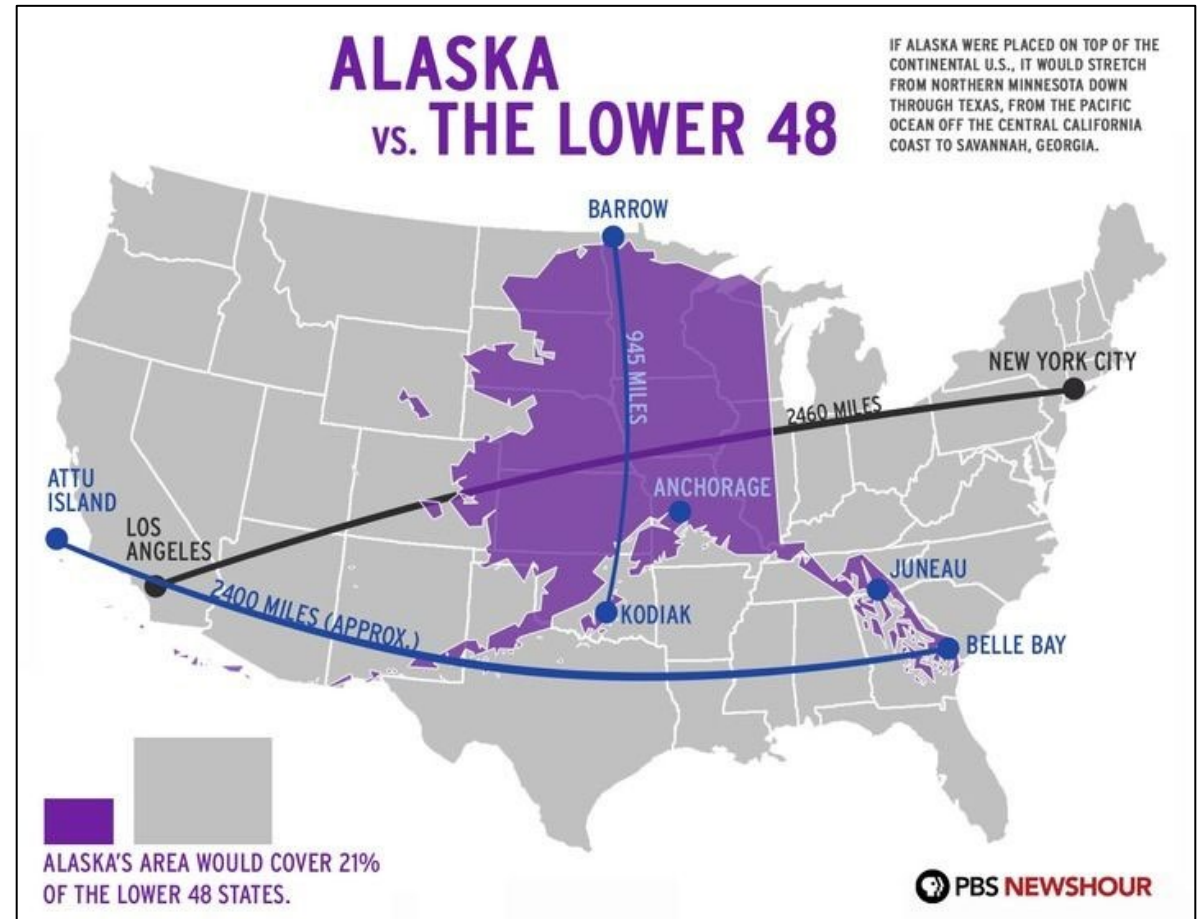


**Presented by the Office of History and Archaeology**  
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation  
Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
April 24, 2026



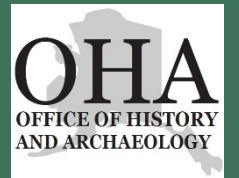
# Welcome

- John Crowther, DNR Commissioner and State Historic Preservation Officer
- Sarah Meitl, Acting Chief, OHA



Alaska in perspective

# About Alaska OHA/SHPO

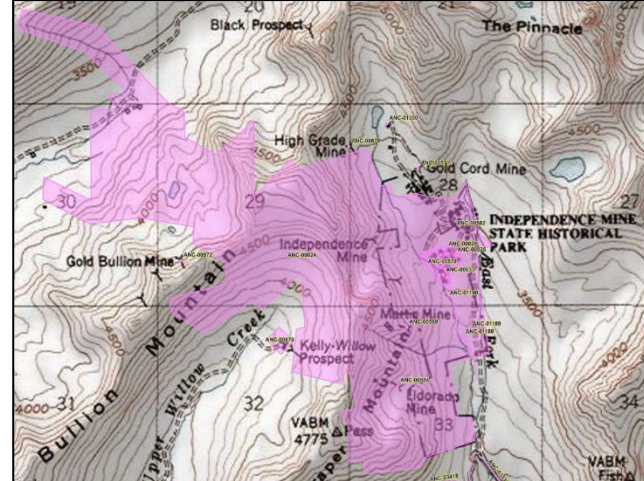


## Office of History and Archaeology

- State Authorities
  - A.S. 41.35
- State land management and project review

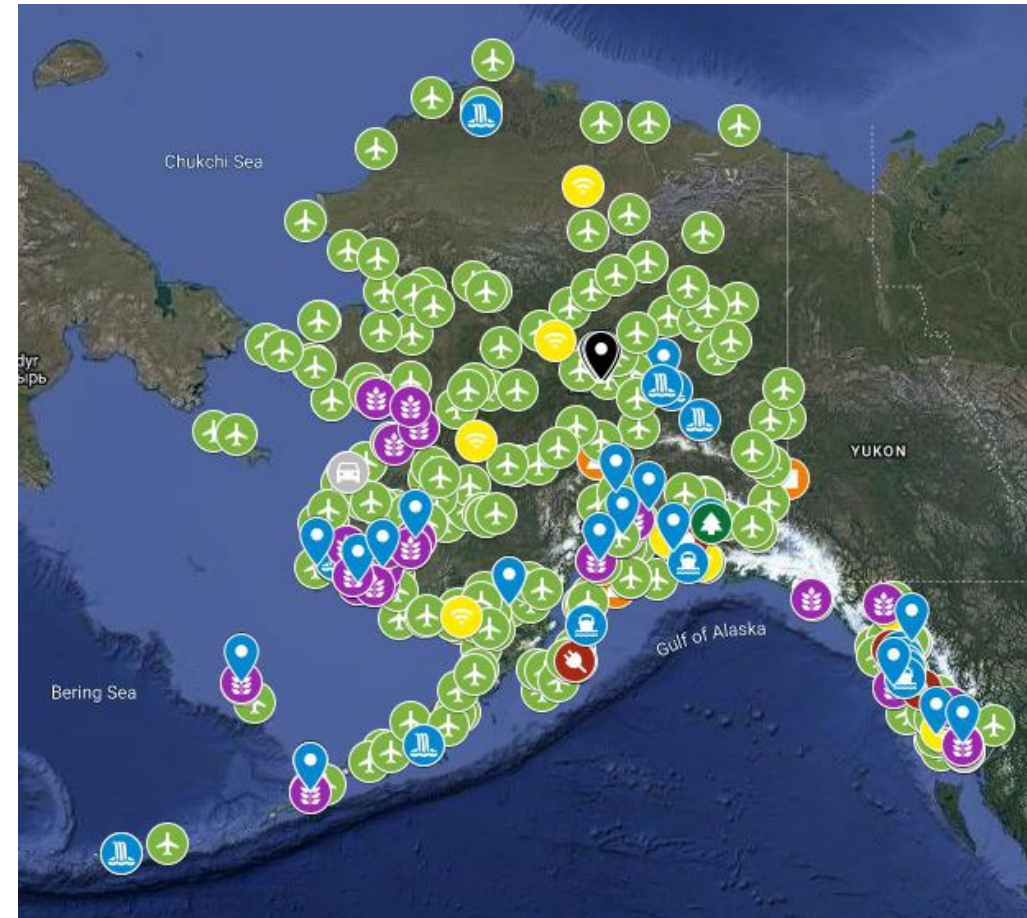
## State Historic Preservation Office

- Federal Authorities
  - 54 U.S.C. §300101, et seq.
- National Historic Preservation Act Liaison



# Program Updates

- National Register of Historic Places
- Certified Local Governments
- Preservation Planning
- Review and Compliance
- Covenants/Easements/Grants
- State Archaeology
- Alaska Heritage Resources Survey
- Survey and Research



Projects and connections across the state

## NATIONAL REGISTER PROGRAM

- Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
- State Historian
- National Register
- Grants
- Certified Local Governments (CLG)
- Tax Credits
- State Review Board (AK Hist. Commission)
- Alaska Historical Commission
- Alaska Landmarks
- History Research
- Historic Buildings
- Public Education
- Historic Preservation Plan
- Geographic Names

### STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

#### ***National Historic Preservation Act FEDERAL***

- Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
- Historian
- Architectural Historian
- Required programs: National Register, Tax Credits, H.P Planning, CLGs, Education, Grants

#### ***Alaska Historic Preservation Act AS 41.35 STATE***

- History Research
- Alaska Landmarks Registry
- Geographic Names
- Alaska Historical Commission

#### ***DNR AS 44.37 DEPARTMENT***

- Alaska Historical Commission
- Research

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL TEAM FOR PERMITTING AND RECORDS

- Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
- State Archaeologist
- Permits
- Alaska Heritage Resources Survey
- Integrated Business System Database development/maintenance
- Law Enforcement/Human Remains
- Spill Response/Pre-incident planning
- Public Education

### STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

#### ***National Historic Preservation Act FEDERAL***

- Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
- Archaeologist
- Required programs: Section 106/Project Review, Survey, Inventory

#### ***Alaska Historic Preservation Act AS 41.35 STATE***

- Survey
- Inventory
- Archaeological Research
- Law Enforcement
- Permits: State Cultural Resource Investigation Permits (SCRIP)

#### ***DNR AS 44.37 DEPARTMENT***

- Survey
- Inventory
- Alaska Landmark
- Research Archaeologist

## PROJECT REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE

- All projects funded, permitted, or licensed by the Federal or State government with potential to impact historic, archaeological or prehistoric resources (includes all road, natural resource and building projects)

### STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

#### ***National Historic Preservation Act FEDERAL***

- Staff meet professional qualification requirements for an archaeologist, historian, and architectural historian
- Section 106 project review
- Determinations of Eligibility (DOEs)
- Delegated authority from Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) for Section 106

#### ***Alaska Historic Preservation Act AS 41.35 STATE***

- DOT&PF Liaison for Federal Highways projects and state funded DOT&PF projects
- Public construction review

#### ***DNR AS 44.37 DEPARTMENT***

- Public Construction Review

## ARCHAEOLOGY/HISTORY - RESEARCH AND FIELD INVESTIGATION

- Field Surveys
- Basic Research
- Navigability/RS2477
- Provide project-based services to State and Federal agencies (one-stop shop thru RSAs – avoids procurement delays, provides flexibility)
- Early-stage Project development research (Identification and evaluation for Environments Impact Statements, Section 106, Alaska Historic Preservation Act)

### STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

#### ***National Historic Preservation Act FEDERAL***

- Conduct statewide surveys of historic properties

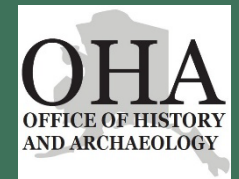
#### ***Alaska Historic Preservation Act AS 41.35 STATE***

- Conduct statewide surveys of historic properties

#### ***DNR AS 44.37 DEPARTMENT***

- Sponsor, engage and direct fundamental research into archaeology
- Investigate reported historic, pre-historic and archaeological resources
- Evaluate resources for eligibility and significance

# Changes and Transition

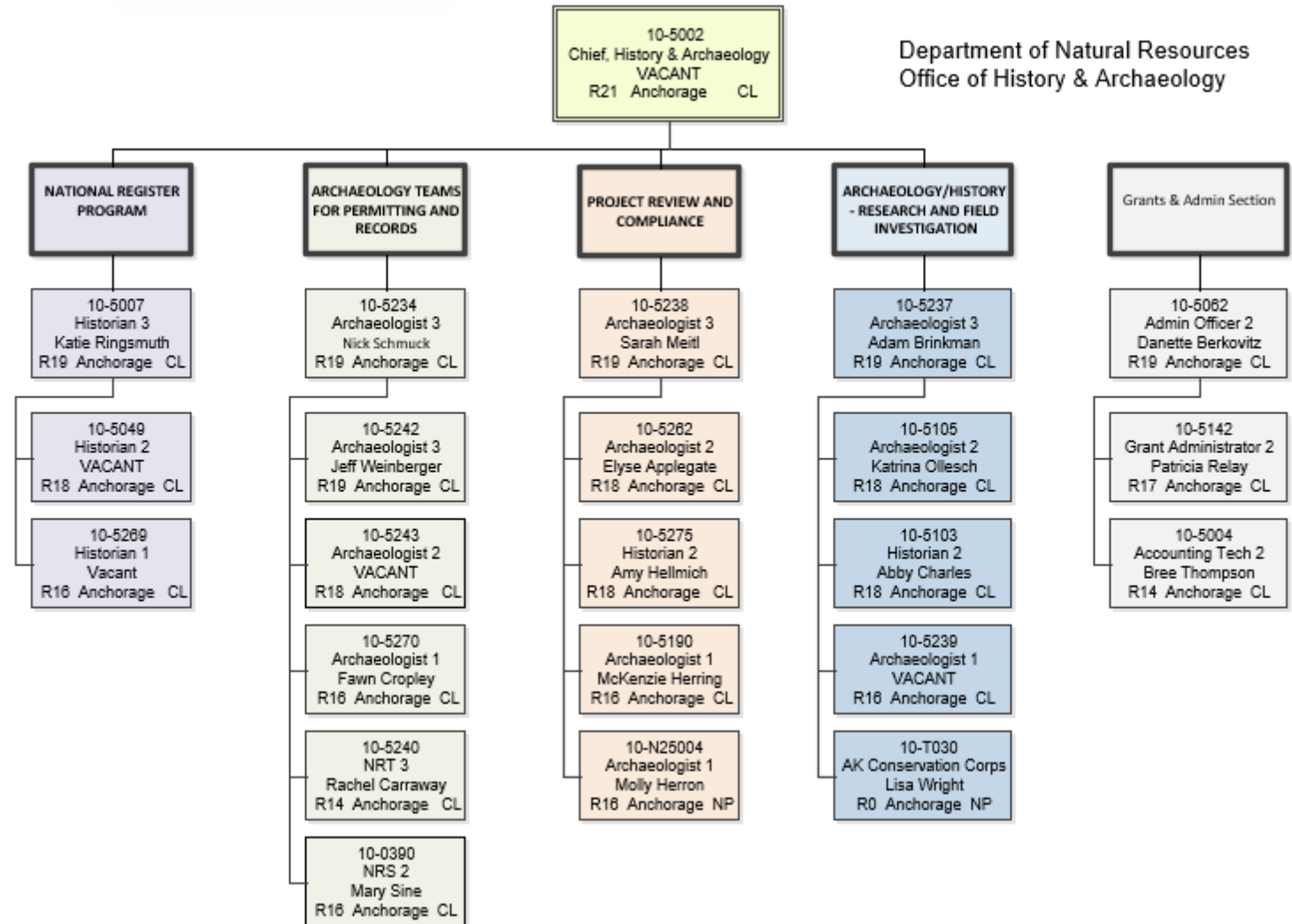


## Staffing

- 20 positions (OHA)
- 5 vacancies, 2 acting
- New SHPO

## Operation

- New Preservation Plan
- Historic Preservation Grant Manager



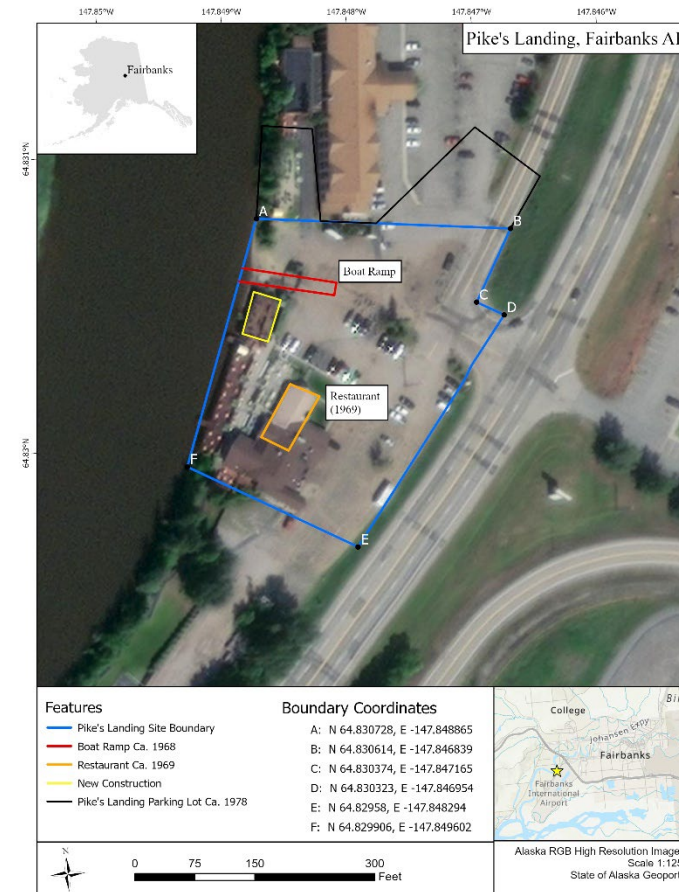
# National Register

## Listed on the National Register

- Wolf Creek Boatworks
- Pike's Landing Historic Site
- Growden Memorial Ball Park

## Draft nominations

- Griffin Memorial Hospital
- Tiny Moose Dairy
- And many more in process



Map of Pike's Landing

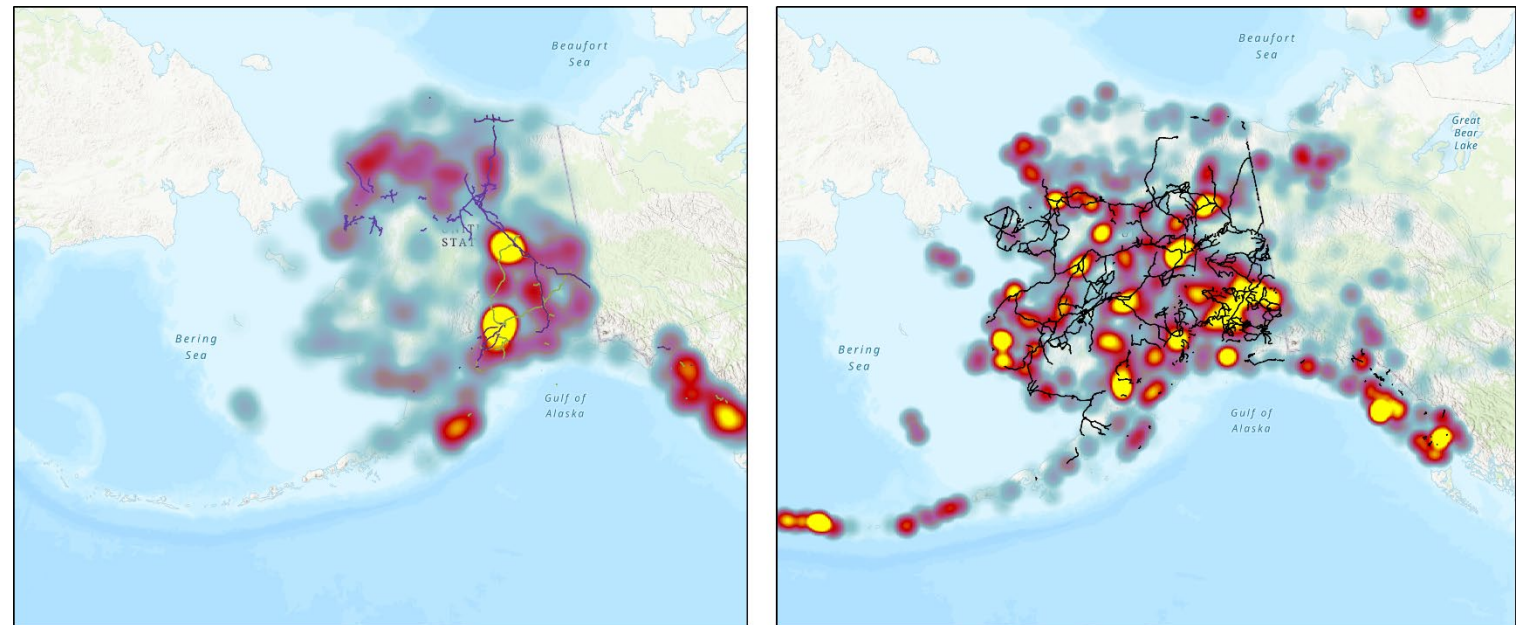
# Other Programs

## Geographic Names

- Program on Pause
- New requests logged in
- Will resume with staffing

## Initiatives

- America250-Alaska



Heat map comparison of AHRs sites (left) and place name data (right).

# Review and Compliance

- Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act
- Alaska Historic Preservation Act
- Other environmental and cultural resource laws
- Technical Assistance
  - Informal, drafts, what now

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**CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT**



# RevComp Statistics - 2025

## Project Reviews

- 1,737 reviews
- No historic properties (654)
- No adverse effect (248)

## Determinations of Eligibility

- 541 properties reviewed
- 184 determined eligible



# RevComp Statistics

## Agency Numbers

1. Tie – USACE and DMLW (199)
2. FHWA/DOT&PF (187)
3. HUD (155)

## Partners

- Federal agencies (49)
- State agencies (16)
- Tribes, ANCSA corporations, local governments



# Review and Compliance

- Amy Hellmich, Acting Coordinator
- Mckenzie Herring, Archaeologist 1
- Elyse Applegate, DOT&PF Liaison
- Molly Herron, Archaeologist 1
- Mary Sine, NRS 2
- Nick Schmuck, State Archaeologist
- Sarah Meitl, Acting Chief

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# Questions?



# Thank you



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